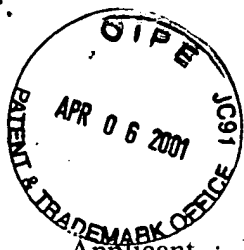


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Attorney Docket No.: 06457-017002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Donald V. Smart
Serial No. : 09/633,837
Filed : August 7, 2000
Title : PULSE CONTROL IN LASER SYSTEMS

Art Unit : 2881
Examiner : C. Jackson

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Jules

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE AND INTERVIEW SUMMARY

In response to the action mailed January 18, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

38
This is a divisional of pending Application No. 09/096,600, filed 12 June 1998. The invention relates to controlling pulses in laser systems and more particularly relates to controlling the width and energy of pulses at differing repetition rates during micromachining procedures such as resistor trimming or capacitor trimming.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 40, 41, 45-49, 52, 55, 56, 60-64, and 67 as follows:

sub 2
BT
40. (Amended) A method of operating a pulsed laser system comprising:
providing a pulsed laser system comprising a laser source;
presetting a pre-selected pulse shape to be produced by the pulsed laser system, based on known properties of a target material to be processed on a workpiece;
selecting a repetition rate independently of the pre-selected pulse shape; and
pulsing the pulsed laser system at the repetition rate selected independently of the pre-selected pulse shape, to cause the laser source to process the target material on the workpiece, while the pre-selected pulse shape remains as preset regardless of the repetition rate, without selection of the repetition rate affecting the pulse shape.